Partners in health

Investing in moms, babies and their families

Regions Hospital Gala & Auction celebrates 30 years

Estate commitment honors neurologist

The wide-ranging support of Andersen Corporation
A word from Megan Remark

Celebrating 30 years of the gala

I’m looking forward to this year’s Regions Hospital Gala & Auction on September 21, 2019. It’s a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, share a great meal and showcase how donor support makes our community a healthier place to live.

Through the years, the Regions Hospital Gala & Auction has raised $13 million, often acting as seed funding for promising new programs and facilities. Past recipients of gala funds include our pain and opioid management services, neuroscience programs, cancer research, emergency care and mental health programs. Thousands of people are touched by these services every year.

This year we will celebrate the gala’s 30th anniversary. Proceeds will support the creation of the Regions Hospital Family Birth Center, opening in the spring of 2020. Like so many of the projects funded with event proceeds, the new birth center will allow us to provide the finest care to all patients, including the uninsured and those who do not have robust health insurance. Charitable contributions allow us to target our community’s most pressing needs and explore solutions that cannot be fully reimbursed through payment for services. This leads to so many stories of hope and healing that we are pleased to share at each year’s event.

I am astounded by the generosity of our gala sponsors and everyone who supports Regions Hospital Foundation year after year. Your contributions make so much of our best work possible. Thank you for being our partner, and I hope to see you at the 2019 gala!
Estate commitment honors neuroscience leader

Earlier this year, Sumner Richman made an estate commitment to the HealthPartners Center for Memory and Aging in honor of Mike Rosenbloom, MD, a neurologist and clinical director of the center.

“I have such a high regard for Dr. Rosenbloom,” Sumner said. “We need that kind of person to work toward a solution for Alzheimer’s disease.”

Dr. Rosenbloom provided care to Sumner’s wife, Joyce, who experienced Alzheimer’s. “Dr. Rosenbloom was just fantastic. He did everything first rate to help both Joyce and myself,” Sumner said.

When Dr. Rosenbloom asked Sumner to sit on the center’s advisory committee, Sumner readily agreed. In 2015, Sumner spoke at the groundbreaking ceremony for the HealthPartners Neuroscience Center, the largest free-standing neuroscience center in the Upper Midwest. Having become an advocate for the Center for Memory and Aging, an estate commitment was a logical next step.

A retired marine biologist and university professor, Sumner has educated himself in the field of Alzheimer’s disease and believes a cure may not be far off. “The Center for Memory and Aging is right in the middle of that work,” Sumner said. Sumner has watched the center improve its work administering exciting new medicines to the brains of people who suffer from neurological disorders. He has also seen the center broaden its approach to innovation with programs like social work services, which provide a level of support to patients and families that is rare in the field of neurology. As clinical director, Dr. Rosenbloom oversees the center’s human trials and patient care initiatives.

“These efforts require a lot of funds,” Sumner said. “It’s important that we help the Center for Memory and Aging the best we can.”

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THANK YOU for your contributions to the HealthPartners Center for Memory and Aging! Philanthropy plays a critical role in supporting the center’s work, which combines care and research to make living with dementia more manageable while creating a more hopeful tomorrow for future generations.
Regions Birth Center: “The best place for anything to happen”

Michelle Simmons had carefully planned the birth of her third child, but her plans were upended at a routine ultrasound when a medical technician became concerned with the baby’s heartbeat. Michelle was rushed to Regions for closer observation. “The hospital staff reassured me I was in the best place for anything to happen. That put me at ease,” Michelle said.

The next day, nearly two months before her due date, Michelle gave birth to daughter Malia by an emergency C-section. At three pounds, one half ounce, Malia spent her first weeks in Regions neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Because Michelle experienced blood pressure spikes, she also stayed longer than normal.

“Our family is super grateful to Regions for the whole experience,” Michelle said. Michelle appreciates the way staff members greeted her husband and two sons by name and how they brought her food to the NICU when she visited Malia. Regions doctors also called Michelle at home regularly after she was discharged to give her updates on Malia’s progress in the NICU.

To further support families like Michelle’s, Regions is building a new family birth center with the help of charitable contributions. The new facility will open in the spring of 2020.
In addition to adding more rooms, larger birthing suites and dedicated space for visitors, the new facility will provide a level of care that is unique in the Twin Cities. Our new NICU will allow us to care for higher-risk babies and will be the only local NICU to have a private family space with a bathroom in every room. We will also be the only hospital in the Midwest to offer enhanced couplet care, which allows high-risk moms and high-risk babies to be cared for in the same room, improving outcomes for both.

Michelle and husband Arthur are glad they chose Regions for Malia’s delivery, despite the fact that they live in Richfield, across the metro area from the hospital. Michelle had previous experience at Regions: her sister gave birth there and her father received care for a heart condition. “I felt a connection to Regions,” she said. “They understand the needs of patients.”

Malia is 10 months old now and doing great. “She has the best personality ever, the biggest smile, and is super bossy and friendly,” Michelle said. Michelle credits the Regions staff for helping her get through the challenges of Malia’s birth. “They gave me the light of hope that everything would be okay.”

THANK YOU for contributions toward the creation of the Regions Hospital Family Birth Center! The new facility will help ensure a healthy birth and happy future for all moms and babies and allow families to come together and bond during these important moments.

MANY FEATURES OF OUR BIRTH CENTER MAKE US UNIQUE, BOTH LOCALLY AND IN THE REGION:

- We are the only Level I Trauma Center in the Twin Cities East Metro, which means we offer the finest trauma and surgical crisis care to moms.
- More than 60 percent of our moms are of color, and we do everything possible to meet the unique needs of everyone we serve. We offer interpreter services for the 25 percent of families that speak limited English.
- Our birth center serves all patients, regardless of their economic background; 55 percent of our moms are uninsured or use government-sponsored health insurance.
- Our birth center is a clinical training site for the University of Minnesota Residency Program. This offers an additional level of physician support to moms and babies while ensuring our practicing physicians are current on the latest medical knowledge.

“

They gave me the light of hope that everything would be okay.

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Investing in a world-class facility: Jay Lund and Andersen Corporation

“Regions Hospital always leans in to health-related problems and finds innovative ways to meet the challenges our society faces,” said Jay Lund, Chairman and CEO of Andersen Corporation.

Andersen has sponsored the Regions Hospital Gala & Auction for many years. Jay and Gail Lund also attend the event and have offered their personal support, as they did in 2018, when proceeds helped Regions and HealthPartners expand their pain and opioid management services.

“The focus of last year’s gala was very personal to our family,” Jay said. The Lunds are close friends with Tom and Ingrid Blair, who lost their son, Hunter, to an opioid overdose. The Blairs shared their story at the 2018 gala.

“To see how a really good family can be devastated by opioid addiction … we wanted to be there for our friends and one way we could show our support and make a difference was to give to this program,” Jay said. “The event allowed our community to confront an issue that has touched all of us.”

Andersen Corporation, its leaders and employees, and the Andersen family have a long history of philanthropy, and health has been a major focus of the company’s giving for many years. This includes the support of local hospitals in the St. Croix Valley and extends to Regions.

“Regions is unique in the East Metro and St. Croix Valley,” Jay said. “The variety and level of care it provides is unmatched and supplements what hospitals in the St. Croix Valley do. They all work together as an ecosystem to meet the ever-changing needs of the community.”

THANK YOU for contributions to Make It OK, a campaign to reduce and someday eliminate the stigma related to mental illnesses!
Over the years, the Andersen Corporate Foundation has provided major contributions to a number of Regions Hospital programs, from emergency medicine to mental health. Its most recent contribution is helping to bring Make It OK to the St. Croix Valley. Make It OK is a grassroots campaign that aims to reduce and someday eliminate the stigma related to mental illnesses.

“Thank you for funding new ways to treat pain and address the opioid epidemic

With the support of more than $1.4 million in contributions to date, Regions and HealthPartners have accelerated and expanded their strategies to better care for patients, their families and community members who have been devastated by the opioid crisis. Here are some of our recent successes made possible with the help of donations.

5.5 MILLION
5.5 million fewer opioid pills have been prescribed across HealthPartners over the past two years, so patients are less likely to become addicted.

7,300+ POUNDS
More than 7,300 pounds of unwanted medications were collected in our 25 take-back receptacles in 2018, keeping them out of the hands of children and others who might misuse them.

5th PAIN CLINIC
We opened the fifth of our local pain clinics, which have a proven track record of helping patients quit their opioid pain medications while reducing their pain at the same time.

400+ HOMES
More than 400 homes now have Narcan, a life-saving overdose reversal medication, due to our pharmacists providing proactive screening and education to patients.
Help us welcome the next generation

Join us to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Regions Hospital Gala & Auction! Proceeds from the event will support the new Regions Hospital Family Birth Center, which will open in the spring of 2020.

The new birth center will be a “next generation” facility for the next generation, incorporating the latest medical knowledge with design input from the many diverse families we serve. With your help, we will provide the finest care to the growing number of moms and babies who count on our unique services.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 | SAINT PAUL RIVERCENTRE

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